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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Pete V. Domenici
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Domenici:

This is in reply to your letter of February 1, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Robert A. McPherson, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals.

Mr. McPherson is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

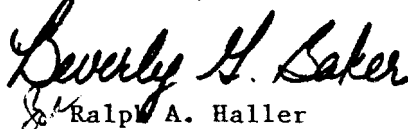
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We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituent's concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994. We urge your constituent to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,



Ralph A. Haller
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:
Notice
Order
Discussion paper

cc:
Chief, PRBureau
Chief, LM&M Divison
Docket Files, Room 222
P&P Branch File (Pink)

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LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300476	02/09/93	02/01/93	02/22/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	Pete Domenici	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
Phyllis J. McPherson	ing comments on DR Docket 02-225

PETE V. DOMENICI
NEW MEXICO

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

February 1, 1993

COMMITTEES:
BUDGET
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PPB
92-235
476

Linda T. Solheim
Director, Legislative Affairs
F.C.C.
1919 M Street, NW
Room 808
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Linda:

Because of my desire to be responsive to all inquiries directed to me, and knowing that you share this desire, the attached letter is referred to you for consideration.

I would very much appreciate your evaluating the information presented and taking whatever action is required to resolve the situation. I appreciate your consideration of this request, recognizing that it will be taken within the context of your existing procedures.

At your earliest convenience, I would be grateful for your findings and views, in duplicate form. Please send your response to the attention of Keith B. Nelson.

Sincerely,



Pete V. Domenici
United States Senator

PVD/kbn
Enclosure

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Orthodontic Associates

"Orthodontics for Adults and Children"

1423 Don Roser
Las Cruces, NM 88001

ROBERT A. McPHERSON, D.D.S.
LYNDA D. McPHERSON GARCIA, D.D.S.

1993 JAN 28 10 11 00

505 / 522-5600

January 22, 1993

The Honorable Pete Domenici
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510-3101

Dear Senator Domenici:

I have been interested in aviation for as long as I can remember. I am very active in a local club whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model

Senator Pete Domenici
Page Two

When we operate our R/C models, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is